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on the facts presented by active committees, who have seen the improved conditions for themselves. This is an encouraging note at this time of apprehension over the possible Springtime return of cholera.

STATE MATTER

Gov. Flower is able to present a satisfactory condition of State affairs in the message he sent to the Legislature yesterday. That a great State like New York, with all that it has done for the commerce of the country, should be practically free from debt is as remarkable as it is gratifying and speaks well for the administration of its affairs for the past ten years.

In his comments on the coal conspiracy the Governor suggests that if the companies engaged in the combination enjoy public privileges granted by the State the Legislature should exercise its right to impose conditions upon the enjoyment of those privileges that will protect the people from unwarrantable exactions. It is to be hoped that the report of the special committee to investigate the conspiracy may propose some prompt and effective action against the combination through the Attorney-General of the State.

Naturally Gov. Flower has considerable to say about quarantine matters, in which he took great interest during last Summer. He strongly recommends a liberal expenditure to improve quarantine facilities in New York and to strengthen the power and resources of the State Board of Health.

This is, of course, desirable. But the Governor's argument against a National control of quarantine will scarcely be regarded as sound. There is no more violation of the "old-fashioned Jeffersonian theory of self-government" in a National quarantine than in a National post-office. It is ridiculous to say that the people of the State might as well be asked to surrender to the Federal Government the control of their militia as the control of quarantine, or the citizens of New York and Brooklyn to yield to the State Government the command of their local police.

A quarantine to be efficient must be rigid in every other port of entry and on the Canadian border as in New York City. It is a matter in which no single State alone but the whole nation is vitally interested. For these reasons many persons believe that quarantine measures belong properly to the Federal Government, which can make them uniform all over the country.

The Governor is correct when he says that the only effective quarantine is by a rigid system of inspection at foreign ports. But how can this inspection be enforced except through the General Government, and what is there of a "centralized" or "paternal" character in the assumption of the power by the General Government?

It is not true Democracy to make a parade of devotion to "State Rights" when common sense dictates that a power can be better trusted to the Federal Government than to the States, for the general good, and for the safety of the whole country.

THE RAPID TRANSIT QUESTION.
The Rapid Transit Commissioners have deemed it wise to suspend their surrender of the city to the Elevated Railroad corporation and to abandon the attempt to secure rapid transit. It is strongly suspected that such a result of their labors was contemplated from the beginning, but, if so, they have not measured correctly the extent of popular indignation, and the forcible expression of public opinion has caused them to halt.

The elevated railroads have done a great deal for the city, and are now an indispensable accommodation. But if the people had been satisfied with them, and had been contented with the relief an extension of their tracks and other additional facilities would afford, there would have been no necessity to have gone to the expense and trouble of creating a Commission to devise other means of rapid transit. It would be a little ridiculous if the very measure adopted by the people to take the city out of the hands of the elevated corporation should become the instrument of putting the city more completely into its hands.

Mr. STRANWELL believed that the people should be willing to trust the Commission because its members are "rich" and its Chairman is "very rich." But what is wanted of the Commissioners is a plan of rapid transit other than the present elevated structures. That is what they were appointed to secure. If they cannot devise such a plan, let them say so and resign. They were not created to perpetuate, but to supersede the present Elevated roads.

It may be as well to wait and see what Mayor Gilroy has to say about rapid transit.

GREATER BROOKLYN

Mayor Gilroy in his annual message to the Brooklyn Board of Aldermen yesterday, proposes to make "Greater Brooklyn" in advance of "Greater New York," by annexing to the city all the towns of Kings County, thus making the city and county coterminous, as is the case in New York. As a prelude to the union of the two cities, the proposed annexation of the towns is desirable and expedient. But Mayor Gilroy is silent on the greater question of union.

The Mayor finds that the debt of Brooklyn is a heavy burden.

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lyn has increased last year over \$4,000,000. As the net debt is now only \$1,000,000 short of the constitutional limit of 10 per cent. of the real estate valuation, the Mayor suggests the expediency of a judicial determination of the question whether the tax certificates and water bonds are to be deducted from the net debt before its amount is fixed as the limit beyond which the debt cannot be increased.

In reference to the charges of inefficiency made against the Fire Department, Mayor Gilroy favors thorough investigation, which he is confident will be hailed with satisfaction by all the efficient and faithful members of the Department.

The statements of the message in relation to the public health, the improved sewerage and the repaving of the streets are encouraging, and prove that Brooklyn may well be satisfied with the progress the city has made during the past year.

HIS FORTUNE ON HIS UPPER LIP.
A Moline (Ill.) man is suing his barber for \$5,000 damages done to his mustache by shaving carelessly in trimming it. This is as much as a dead man in a railroad accident is worth, but it is very little for a first-class fortune mustache like that whose destruction the Moline man must be mourning.

A mustache may be every thing to its owner. It may fill his waking thoughts by day and distribute itself through his dreams by night. He may prize it as a hotel clerk, lose his fourteen-horse-power diamond stud, and bestow the same care upon it that a millionaire of Memphis does upon his flower, or a new bride upon her wedding ring.

It may have cost him something, too, in the way of brilliant, end-curled and line-greys. Many a man has spent \$50,000 in acquiring a delicate shyl-pink tint for the end of his nose, and why not spend as much in looking after the treasured curls of his upper lip?

The Moline man ought to get his \$5,000. Probably the loss of the services of his mustache does him that much personal injury. His sweetheart, who must have prized the mustache, may mourn its absence in the gloaming—and who can estimate the woundedness of his feelings when the mustacheless Molineite is slipping soap and misce the wanted delight of trailing his labial locks in the soap?

Chicago's proposed circular theatre, with its revolving auditorium and seven simultaneous spectacles, should give the World's Fair visitors who drop in a dizzy theatrical whirl.

A brand-new Temperance and Equal Suffrage party is building in Western Pennsylvania. There is little immediate apprehension among the old parties that it will come to a full bloom.

"THE NEW SOUTH."
Clay M. Greene and Joseph H. Gritmer's new play called "The New South," now current at the Broadway Theatre, is a melodrama pure and simple, and it will have a long and joyous career in the popular regard as the grand opera-house and the people, where audiences love the emphasized virtue and the accentuated vice that are the characteristics of the bona-fide melodrama. Some of its scenes are engrossingly interesting. Its climaxes are all deftly made, and its denouement is a masterpiece of the kind.

Yet the bit of novelty, consisting in the leasing of a convict, according to Georgia statutes, by his sweetheart, who subsequently proves his innocence, is purposeless. The playwrights have no object in the incident, except to give the heroine a new lesson and the hero a chance to pose. The episode, which is apparently new to the stage, might have been used in a far more startling manner and made to stand out conspicuously instead of being swamped in the machinery that goes round and round and round, grinding out a triumphantly true and demoralized story of any sort, so rare on the stage that Nevins, Greene and Gritmer should get due credit for their idea, which, however, will probably set and work out much better.

The play deals with the tribulations of Capt. Harry Ford, who is accused of the murder of Jefferson B. Gwynne, with whom he has had a quarrel, while Ford has gone to consult a doctor, a revengeful negro, who has a political grudge against Gwynne, appears and kills the unconscious Gwynne. When Ford returns he finds the young man dead, and he is, of course, accused of the murder. As he loves Gwynne's sister, this is not a easy state of affairs, and he is in a quandary. He is sent to prison, tested by Miss Gwynne, and his innocence is subsequently proved by the words of the superstitious and frightened negro.

There are some very able scenes in the play, the besetting fault of which is its conventional melodramatic flavor. The hero is so dogmatically good that you hate him, and the heroine is so virtuously righteous that you find yourself trying to set her right. They both have long speeches to deliver, and whenever they appear slow music is heard. Nothing is so annoying as the slow music of melodrama. Why the hero and heroine do not wait until the scene or make their entrances, delivering a police-court charge, is not known. When the musical director gives two little taps with his baton you always know that either the hero or heroine approaches.

In spite of these weaknesses—and they can scarcely be called weaknesses when they are away from Broadway—"The New South" still is a good play. The plot introduces two California favorites, Joseph Gritmer and Florence Davis, a conscientious couple who seem to labor very industriously. Mr. Gritmer is a fairly effective actor, lacking, however, in personal magnetism. His methods are unlike those of most melodramatic actors. His voice has a peculiarly chatty intonation which is new. Miss Florence Davis is not as good. She lacks every symptom of repose and is noisy and staccato. In one or two of her pathetic moments she does well, but she has still a great deal to learn. James A. Herne as the colored villain is exceedingly effective, and he quite deserves all the applause he gets for he is an actor. Harry Haysport as a comedy doctor does full justice to his part, and Miss Belle Haysport has a very witty and refined. Miss Katherine Gray, a very pretty young woman, is agreeably quiet, and Frank Landau is exceedingly melodramatic. That is probably due to the fact that he wears a villainous mustache, out of all proportion, which wags when he grows sentimental.

There is a Spanish dialogue about rumbling through the play. At moments it is amusing, at others it is absurd, of course. It should be there, but it is not. The play is a good one, and it is worth seeing. The actors are good, and the play is a good one.

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CHILDREN AT THE FAIR.

Mrs. Dunlap Enthusiastic About The Columbian Exhibit.

She Contradicts the Existence of a "Baby-Checking Scheme."

Mrs. Dunlap, Jan. 1.—Mrs. George L. Dunlap, Mrs. Father's first lieutenant, who is also Chairman and Treasurer of The Children's Building Committee of the Columbian Exposition, has been awarded and announced to correct the misstatement in a paragraph that is going the rounds of the newspaper world.

"The New York World goes all over creation I am told, and what space it may give to our work will help us very much," said Mrs. Dunlap yesterday.

"What we most desire is a contradiction of the statement that 'parents may check their babies and children at the office of the Children's Home while they visit the various departments of the Exposition.' No such plan was ever considered, and no such responsibility will be assumed by the Board of Lady Managers, either."

"The wide circulation given this association 'checking system' has been attended by pronounced opposition to our efforts. Letters have poured in upon us from all quarters and in all languages, containing advice and disclaimers. These letters will be sent to the various departments of the Exposition, and referred to the Paris Exposition records for definite information."

"Now, as a matter of fact, there was no check at the Paris Exposition. There were exhibits of infants' and children's supplies, but there was no educational work."

"We intend to make a specialty of educational progress; we want to educate the mothers, teachers and guardians, and to do this we must have the little folks, and while they are with us we will see that neither harm nor discomfort befalls them."

"Our check is to be a model. Your Miss Emily Huntington, of the Wilson Mission, is particularly interested in this. It is not a pet scheme of philanthropy."

"Her object in it is to honeycomb New York with day nurseries, to have them on the site or adjacent to the corner saloons for the double purpose of succoring the unfortunate little ones and showing the liquor dealers and their patrons the innocent lives they are degrading. It need be, Miss Huntington will assume the entire expense of the check during the Exposition. Miss Love, of the New York State Board of Lady Managers, will conduct the work, and in order to show the mothers of the world the most beautiful, rational and economical system of dressing, feeding and caring for young children, infant visitors will be pressed into service."

"For instance, if a mother cares to take a nursery lesson she can enter her child or children at the creche or kindergarten. And the little ones are to be checked at the creche or kindergarten, and at school, by the registrar. From the health office the newcomer will go to the bath, thence to the dressing-room and afterwards to the creche, where in all probability it will be ready for a nap."

"By means of the glass walls inclosing the creche the mother will be able from any point in the vast gallery to witness the entire performance."

"Hungry children will be fed, restless ones will be amused and ailing little ones will have medical attention, every precaution being taken to avoid contagion."

"This creche exhibition will consume from one to three hours; no sleeping child will be disturbed except by the mother's request, and as no adult will be permitted to enter the children's section the parent will be at liberty to inspect other exhibits."

"When the child is dismissed it will be dressed in its own garments and returned as it was received. The capacity of the entire creche is only 100, and the time spent in it will depend somewhat on the demands and size of the crowd."

"There is no charity or benevolence about the work, the sole aim being to instruct the mothers and guardians in twentieth century methods of keeping little folks well and happy."

"The children's Home is in reality a school for parents, and will be conducted just as in normal training, only instead of pupil teachers there will be pupil mothers to witness the class work, and in order to show the mothers of the world the most beautiful, rational and economical system of dressing, feeding and caring for young children, infant visitors will be pressed into service."

"American mothers don't abandon their children, nor do foreign women who come to this country to live for the reason that the struggle for existence is not what it is in those far-off lands. In the cases of abandonment in a single year outnumber the total in the whole United States."

"No child will be allowed to remain in the Home over night, and no person with even a trace of disease will be admitted."

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the suspicion of a contagious disease will be admitted to the building.

"Just what provision will be made by the Columbian Health Board I am unable to say, but Dr. Owen, the President, can be depended upon for efficient service."

"It is very likely that the health officers will be on duty in the general office or bath to examine the little ones. The Chicago board of health will keep Dr. Owen informed of infected neighborhoods; the addresses of the children will be required, and those coming from suspected quarters will be denied admission."

"To guard against losing their children, parents will be induced to remain in the immediate vicinity of the exhibition in which their boys or girls may be participating."

"Special care will be taken in the selection of books, matrices and assistant teachers; they must not only be in sympathy with, but they must understand child nature, and the happiness of the children we expect to be the most noticeable feature of our exhibit."

"Children we are told, have a right to be happy, but we know that they are frequently very unhappy."

"All the furniture we expect will be donated. A New York firm will have the sole right to supply the beds for the Home, and books, toys, clothing and such household supplies as belong to the life of the child are coming in in quantities from all nations, representing all ages and stages of civilization."

"We have various schemes under consideration for keeping the parents in the building while their children are engaged. The founders of the various systems of development will have bureaus and assistants to help them receive visitors, answer questions and discuss matters. There will be short lectures on food, clothing, bedding, ventilation, exercise, etc., and polite and intelligent exhibitors to give any information that may be required about books, dress and other models."

NEEL NELSON.

Made Up His Mind to the Judge.
Judge Smith, now a resident of Phoenix, Ariz., is visiting friends in this city, says the St. Louis Republic. The Judge was once a prosecuting lawyer in the little town of Quitman, Miss. One occasion he was defending a case before Judge Buck Hancock. During the trial Judge Smith had occasion to frequently go out of the courtroom. Judge Hancock finally got tired of the delay in the case caused by Smith's absence and reprimanded him. Finally Smith came into the room with his hat on. The judge saw his opportunity and called out:

"Mr. Smith, I sue you \$50 for contempt of court."

"Very well, Your Honor," was the reply. "I'll pay it to-morrow."

The next day Hancock was in a better humor, and, desiring to go out for a moment, called Judge Smith to the bench. After Judge Hancock had left the room the acting justice turned to the clerk and said:

"The fine against Mr. Smith yesterday for contempt of court is remitted. And so it was."

Recante.
From Truth.
"I've more gift than you have," said the cake, to the boy of sugar.

"That's all right," replied the sugar, "but you haven't as much snuff."

Strangers.
From Truth.
He—Humph! I am going to marry money. She—Then I should think you would have to get up a more intimate acquaintance with it than you have at present.

"A Woman's Remedy for Woman's Ills founded not upon the theory of a man, but upon twenty years' practice and experience of a woman."

Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound is a positive cure for all those painful complaints and weaknesses so common among the Ladies of the World.

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HOUSE AND HOME

Slating Costumes.

The first costume is of striped green novelty wool made with Russian blouse edged with fur; the plastron, revers and the puffs in the sleeves are of emerald purple velvet, and the skirt is bordered with the same; hat of velvet with fur rim and black wings. Five and a half yards double width goods.



The second is red and black plaid with two flounces edged with fur; the full bodice is lined by a belt of black velvet with gold clasp; the sleeves are of velvet with two slender ruffles of plaid; velvet hat with garniture of changeable wings. Six and one-half yards, double width goods.

The Park Row Butter Cake.
The Park Row restaurant butter cakes, about which a Brooklyn woman writes to THE EVENING WORLD, are made in large quantities. Three quarts of batter are baked at a time, and each quart turns out seventy-seven cakes. The quantity cannot be reduced for family use, the butter-cream makers say, as the result of mixing a small quantity in the proportions here given would be clumsy and soggy cakes. This is the recipe for a three-quart batch: 221 cakes, as follows: 3 pounds flour, 1 pound lard, 3 quarts milk, three tablespoonsful of bicarbonate of soda, 1 small teaspoonful of salt. This must be used quickly; it will turn sour if allowed to stand very long.

A Princess's Bride at Work.
Five hundred hands are at work on the bridal veil of the Princess Margarete, of Prussia. The veil is made of 500 different pieces, all the work being done with the needle, and the pieces, each of which requires ten days for completion, are to be joined by the most skillful lacemakers in a pattern which will appear as the work of the same hand.

What the Names Mean.
The fashionable colors, or rather the fashionable names for colors now in vogue, are: Angeline, a pale apple green. Helge, really a beige drab. Castor, a dark teal. Castile, a bright buff yellow. Coquetish, a bright brick red. Flaxen, a bright cinnamon. Emerald, a brilliant emerald green. Floxine, a brilliant light crimson. Constant, a pale greenish red. Navosette, a medium moss green. Murat, an indefinite moss green. Paradis, a bird of paradise yellow. Pivoire, a deep metallic searlet. Vaseline, a deep moss green.

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